

daily production in excess of 1.6 million barrels of crude oil, natural gas equivalents, and liquefied petroleum products may submit a joint bid for any OCS oil and gas lease during the applicable six-month bidding period with any other person similarly chargeable. Such bids shall be disqualified and rejected.

(c) No person may submit any bid during the applicable six-month bidding period pursuant to any agreement, the terms of which would result in two or more persons, each chargeable for the prior production period with an average daily production in excess of 1.6 million barrels of crude oil, natural gas equivalents, and liquefied petroleum products, acquiring or holding any interest in the tract for which the bid is submitted. Such bids shall be disqualified and rejected.

## PART 270—NONDISCRIMINATION IN THE OUTER CONTINENTAL SHELF

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AUTHORITY: Sec. 604, Pub. L. 95–372, 92 Stat. 695 (43 U.S.C. 1863).

SOURCE: 50 FR 21048, May 22, 1985, unless otherwise noted.

### § 270.1 Purpose.

The purpose of this part is to implement the provisions of section 604 of the OCSLA of 1978 which provides that “no person shall, on the grounds of race, creed, color, national origin, or sex, be excluded from receiving or participating in any activity, sale, or employment, conducted pursuant to the provisions of . . . the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act.”

### § 270.2 Application of this part.

This part applies to any contract or subcontract entered into by a lessee or by a contractor or subcontractor of a lessee after the effective date of these regulations to provide goods, services, facilities, or property in an amount of \$10,000 or more in connection with any activity related to the exploration for

or development and production of oil, gas, or other minerals or materials in the OCS under the Act.

### § 270.3 Definitions.

As used in this part, the following terms shall have the meanings given below:

*Contract* means any business agreement or arrangement (in which the parties do not stand in the relationship of employer and employee) between a lessee and any person which creates an obligation to provide goods, services, facilities, or property.

*Lessee* means the party authorized by a lease, grant of right-of-way, or an approved assignment thereof to explore, develop, produce, or transport oil, gas, or other minerals or materials in the OCS pursuant to the Act and this part.

*Person* means a person or company, including but not limited to, a corporation, partnership, association, joint stock venture, trust, mutual fund, or any receiver, trustee in bankruptcy, or other official acting in a similar capacity for such company.

*Subcontract* means any business agreement or arrangement (in which the parties do not stand in the relationship of employer and employee) between a lessee’s contractor and any person other than a lessee that is in any way related to the performance of any one or more contracts.

### § 270.4 Discrimination prohibited.

No contract or subcontract to which this part applies shall be denied to or withheld from any person on the grounds of race, creed, color, national origin, or sex.

### § 270.5 Complaint.

(a) Whenever any person believes that he or she has been denied a contract or subcontract to which this part applies on the grounds of race, creed, color, national origin, or sex, such person may complain of such denial or withholding to the Regional Director of the OCS Region in which such action is alleged to have occurred. Any complaint filed under this part must be submitted in writing to the appropriate Regional Director not later than 180